Release Highlights: April 27, 2005

MONTANA

Per Capita Personal Income - County http://ceic.mt.gov/BEACountyData.htm

Several eastern Montana counties enjoyed double-digit growth in per capita personal income from 2002 to 2003. Petroleum County residents' income surged ahead by 22%, more than 20 percentage points above the national average of 2.2% and nearly 19 percentage points above Montana's average of 3.5%. Garfield County was close behind with an increase of 19.3%. Third highest was Powder River at 13.2%. The next three counties experiencing double-digit increases were Fallon at 10.7%, McCone at 10.4%, and Carter at 10.0%.

This increase in per capita income can be attributed, in large part, to the increase of cash receipts farmers received for livestock and crops plus an increase in government payments.

Yellowstone County continues to lead the state in per capita income at \$29,421. Montana's per capita income is \$25,406 while the U.S. is \$31,372. See the table below for the top 5 counties ranked according to their per capita income.

		2003
County	Per Capita	Rank
Yellowstone	\$29,421	1
Lewis & Clark	\$28,079	2
Missoula	\$27,997	3
Cascade	\$27,523	4
Gallatin	\$27,211	5

With the release of 2003 data, BEA released revised data for 2001 and 2002. Also updated are the detailed income and employment tables and BearFacts, narrative fact sheets for counties and metropolitan areas describing the personal income using current estimates, growth rates, and a breakdown of the sources of personal income. All of these new data can be accessed from CEIC's web site at http://ceic.mt.gov/BEACountyData.htm.

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